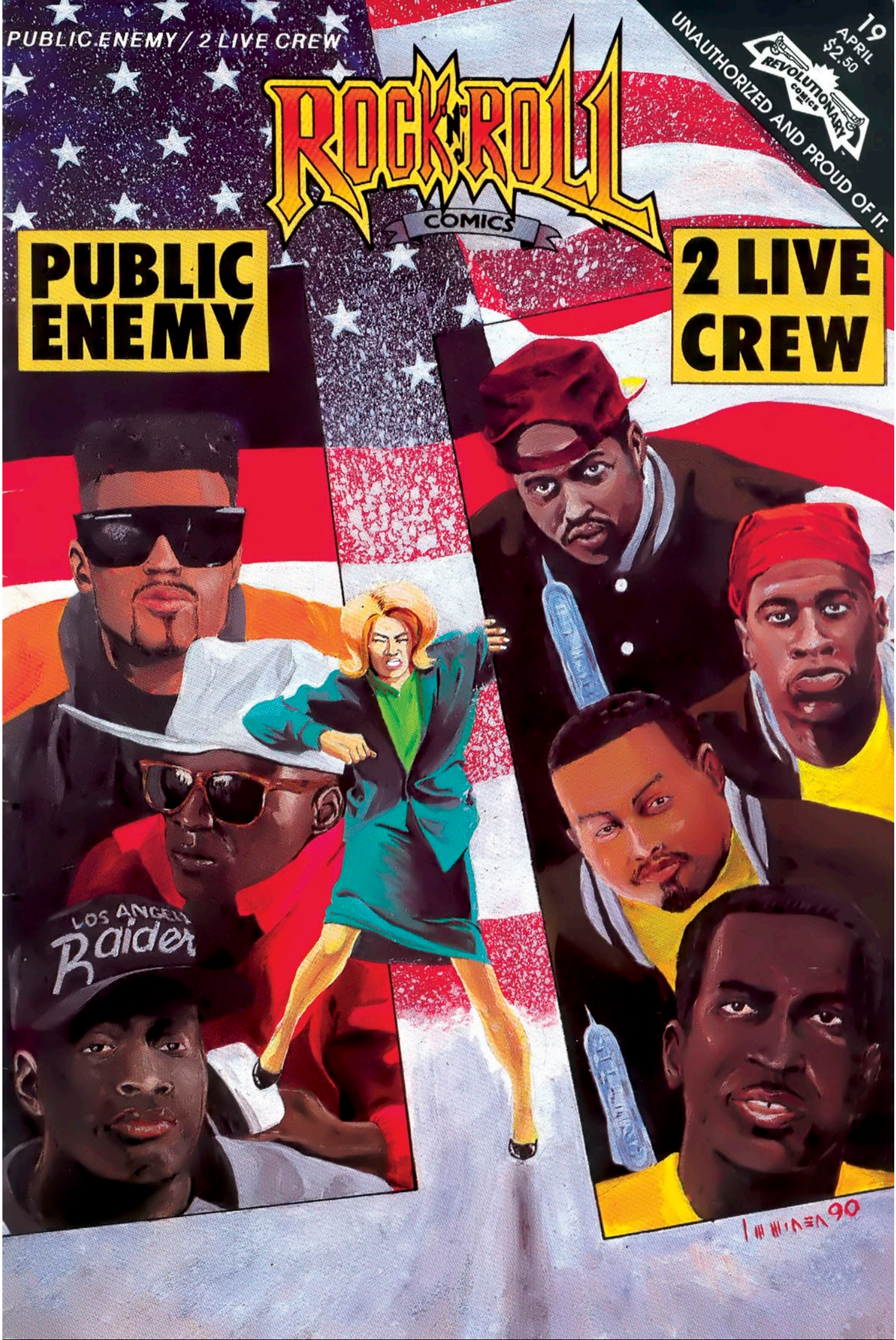
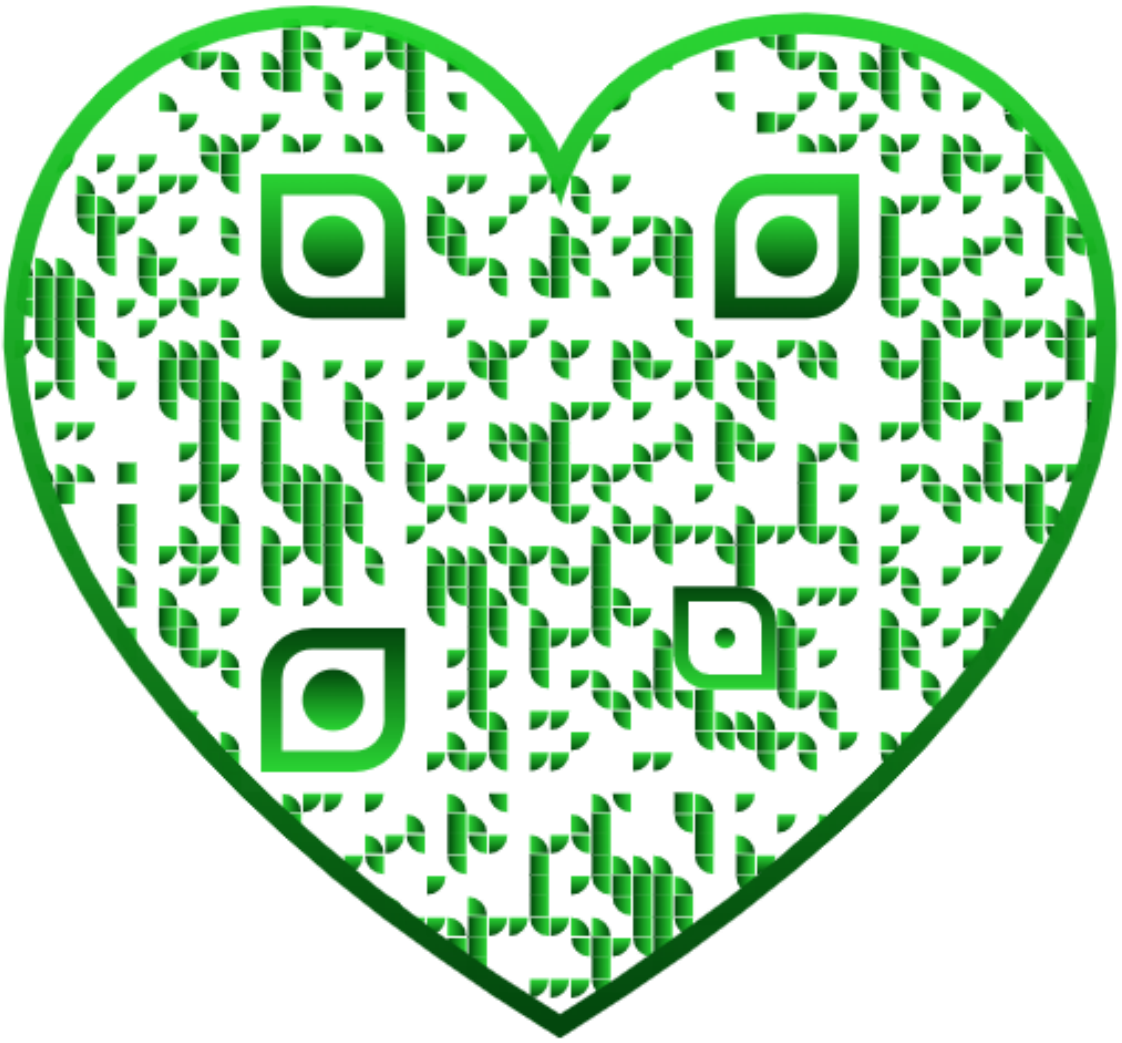

PUBLIC ENEMY / 2 LIVE CREW
ROCK 'N' ROLL COMICS
UNAUTHORIZED AND PROUD OF IT.
REVOLUTIONARY COMICS
19
APRIL
$2.50
PUBLIC ENEMY
2 LIVE CREW
LOS ANGELES Raiders
90



THIS IS AN UNAUTHORIZED BIOGRAPHY!

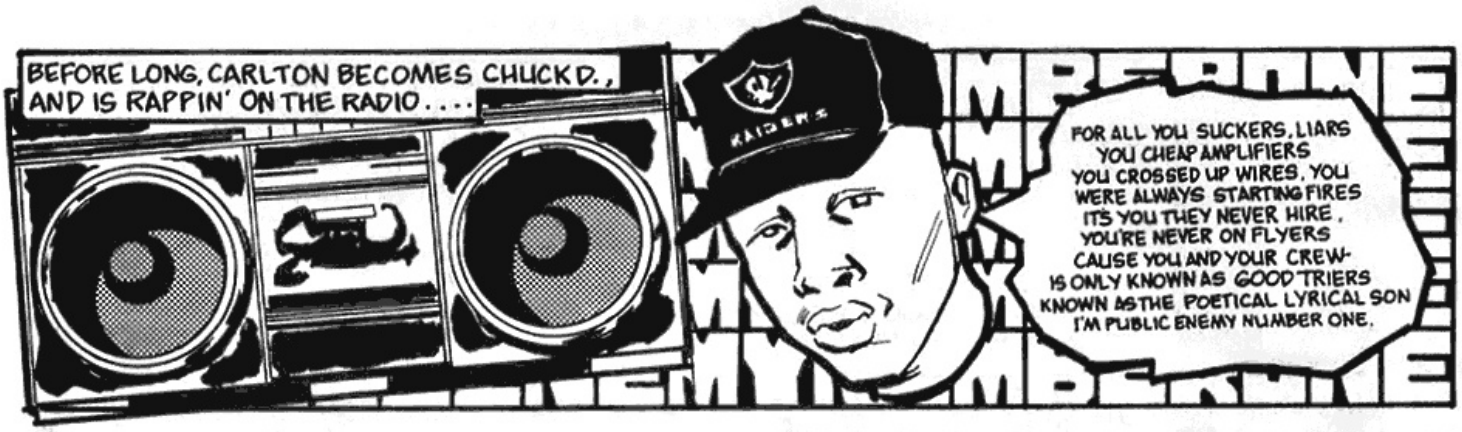
TIP

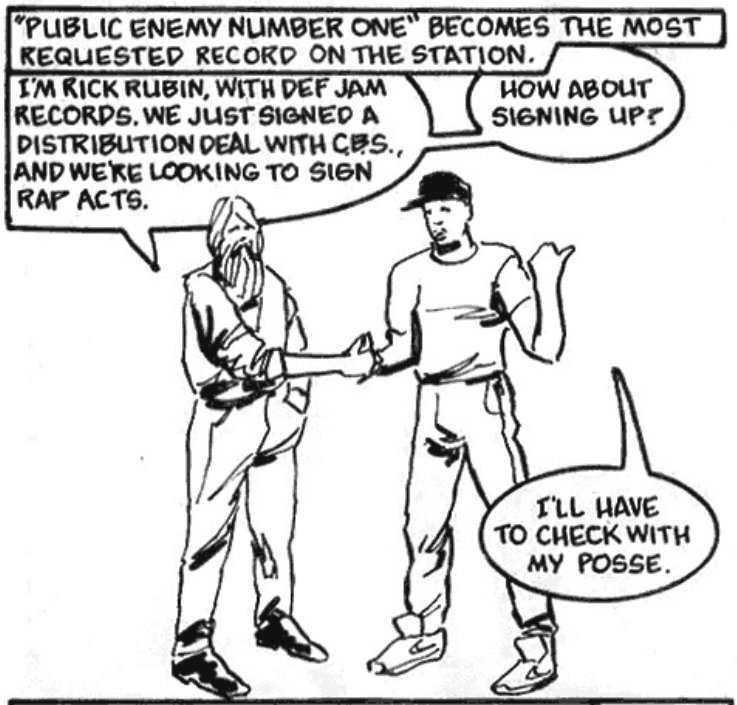
FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO FIGHT

INFORMATION: TODD LOREN

VISUAL ASSAULT: MARC ERICKSON

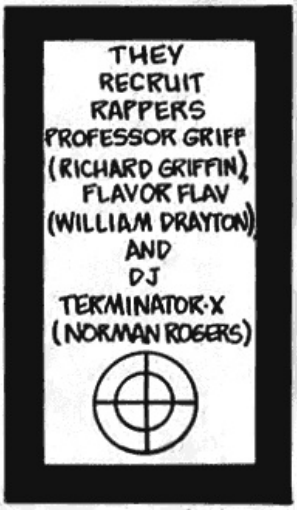
THE TIME: THE EARLY EIGHTIES. THE PLACE: LONG ISLAND, THE SUBURBAN SPRAWL-LAND EAST OF NEW YORK CITY, BUT DECIDEDLY SEPARATE FROM N.Y.C. IN MANY WAYS. HANK SHOCKLEE AND BILL STEPHNEY ARE PROMOTERS....
MAN, THESE PARTIES ARE GOING WELL! SOON WE'LL BE IN OUR OWN CLUB!
YEAH, AND WHO'S GOING TO RUN IT? WE CAN'T DO EVERYTHING OURSELVES.
I'M GLAD YOU ASKED THAT! MEET CARLTON RIDENHOUR. HE'S STUDYING GRAPHIC DESIGN. HE CAN HELP US PROMOTE THE SHOWS!
YO, MAN
THE TRIO BEGINS TO FORMULATE A WELL-ORCHESTRATED MARKETING AND PROMOTION SYSTEM WITH WHICH THEY'D HIRE GROUPS, AND MAKE THEM APPEAR EVEN BIGGER THAN THEY ARE!
BUSINESS IS GOOD!
FRESH
ONE BLUSTERY LONG ISLAND AFTERNOON.....
SO WHAT'D YOU THINK OF THAT NEW GROUP?
I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD THEY SAID.
SO... CAN YOU DO BETTER?
DAMN RIGHT I CAN, AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THE LYRICS TOO!
BILL'S GOT A THREE HOUR RAP RADIO SHOW. WHY DON'T YOU ASK IF HE'LL LET YOU D.J.?
THAT'D BE FLY.
THUUNG
THUUNG
TIP
THUUNG
THUUNG
TIP


BEFORE LONG, CARLTON BECOMES CHUCK D., AND IS RAPPIN' ON THE RADIO....
FOR ALL YOU SUCKERS, LIARS
YOU CHEAP AMPLIFIERS
YOU CROSSED UP WIRES, YOU
WERE ALWAYS STARTING FIRES
IT'S YOU THEY NEVER HIRE,
YOU'RE NEVER ON FLYERS
CAUSE YOU AND YOUR CREW-
IS ONLY KNOWN AS GOOD TRIERS
KNOWN AS THE POETICAL LYRICAL SON
I'M PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE.


"PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE" BECOMES THE MOST REQUESTED RECORD ON THE STATION.
I'M RICK RUBIN, WITH DEF JAM RECORDS. WE JUST SIGNED A DISTRIBUTION DEAL WITH CBS., AND WE'RE LOOKING TO SIGN RAP ACTS.
HOW ABOUT SIGNING UP?
I'LL HAVE TO CHECK WITH MY POSSE.

LATER..
I THINK IT'S A GOOD OFFER. IT'LL GIVE US A CHANCE TO REACH A LOT MORE PEOPLE WITH OUR IDEAS ABOUT IMPORTANT ISSUES...
ALL RIGHT. LET'S GET TOGETHER WITH RUBIN AND IRON OUT THE DETAILS.

THE THREE MEET TOGETHER WITH STEPHNEY
I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING IN TO.
THE GROUP WILL BE CALLED PUBLIC ENEMY, AND THE MUSIC WILL BE A FORUM FOR CHANGE, REVOLUTION, AND FORWARD PROGRESS.
ARE YOU WILLING TO BACK US UP?
ALL THE WAY!


THEY RECRUIT RAPPERS PROFESSOR GRIFF (RICHARD GRIFFIN), FLAVOR FLAV (WILLIAM DRAYTON) AND DJ TERMINATOR-X (NORMAN ROGERS)

FILE FOOTAGE
PROFESSOR GRIFF
YEAH-
FLAVOR FLAV
TERMINATOR X
PETU

GRIFF BRINGS IN THE S1W'S, THE "SECURITY OF THE FIRST WORLD," TO SERVE AS SECURITY FOR THE SHOWS. THEY GRADUALLY BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE SHOWS.

THE FIRST ALBUM, **YO! BUM RUSH THE SHOW** IS RELEASED IN 1987, AND SELLS 300,000 COPIES.

PU
EN

THEY EMPHASIZE BLACK KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS, AND REJECT THE STEREOTYPED "GOLD CHAIN" IMAGE OF RAPPERS AT THE TIME.

THEY CREATE A NEW TYPE OF RAP...

YO! TAKE THAT BEAT FROM **BALL OF CONFUSION,**

ADD THAT SNARE SOUND FROM **GROOVE ME,** YEAH!

NOW LET'S BACK IT UP WITH THE RHYTHM FROM **FUNKADELIC...**

I HAD A FEW SAMPLES ON SOME TAPES HERE, MAYBE WE CAN DO SOMETHING WITH THEM.

THE NEW ALBUM HAS GOT TO HAVE **SPEED!** MOST RAP RECORDS ARE 98 TO 100 BEATS PER MINUTE.

WE GOTTA BRING THAT UP HIGHER!

THE NEW ALBUM, **IT TAKES A NATION OF MILLIONS TO HOLD US BACK** COMES OUT WITH SONGS CONTAINING 109 BEATS PER MINUTE—PREVIOUSLY UNHEARD OF!

WITH THIS ALBUM, CHUCK SEEMS TO BE TAKING ON EVERYONE. HIS SUPPORT FOR LOUIS FARRAKHAN IS SEEN AS A CHALLENGE BY THE JEWISH COMUNITY...BUT IT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING OF TROUBLES TO COME...

WHEN PEOPLE ARE ASLEEP, YOU HAVE TO TAKE DRASTIC MEASURES TO WAKE THEM UP.

SUCCESS BRINGS WITH IT CERTAIN COMPLICATIONS. RIVALRIES, DISSENTION, POWER STRUGGLES. PROFESSOR GRIFF IS GIVEN FREE REIGN TO ADDRESS THE MEDIA ON BEHALF OF PUBLIC ENEMY, AND USES THIS TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE GROUP AND IT'S IMAGE.....

WHO DO YOU THINK BACKED ISRAEL WHEN THEY DECLARED THE STATE OF ISRAEL?

I'LL TELL YOU. BRITAIN, AMERICA, SOUTH AFRICA.... AND GERMANY.

NAZI GERMANY. NAZI GERMANY FINANCED IT.

IT IS UNCLEAR AS TO WHETHER HE WAS GENUINELY STUPID, OR JUST DELIBERATELY TRYING TO HURT THE BAND'S REP.

MAY 22 1989

CHUCK IS SCHEDULED TO BE INTERVIEWED BY DAVID MILLS OF THE WASHINGTON POST. CHUCK CANCELS, AND SENDS GRIFF IN HIS PLACE. THE "MINISTER OF INFORMATION" TAKES THE OPPORTUNITY TO STIR UP SOME MAJOR CONTROVERSY....

JEWS ARE WICKED AND THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAJORITY OF WICKEDNESS IN THE WORLD.

IT WOULD BE VERY HARD TO IMAGINE ANYONE MAKING A MORE IGNORANT REMARK, ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THE BAND'S STANCE AS ANTI-RACIST. THIS CLEARLY RACIST REMARK, AND SEVERAL WHICH FOLLOW ARE INSTANTLY INTERPRETED BY MUCH OF AMERICA TO REFLECT THE PHILOSOPHY OF PUBLIC ENEMY, WHEN IN FACT IT WAS ONLY GRIFF'S OWN PERSONAL TWISTED OPINIONS.

THE STORY IS PLAYED UP EVERYWHERE. THE MILITANT FACTIONS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY ARE THE FIRST TO RESPOND....

THE JEWISH DEFENSE ORGANIZATION WILL BREAK PUBLIC ENEMY IN **HALF!**

GRIFF, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? WHY'D YOU SHOOT OFF YOUR DAMN MOUTH LIKE THAT?

WELL, HOW'S THE RECORD INDUSTRY RESPONDING?

THEY'RE NOT!

BUT THE RECORD INDUSTRY SEEMS TO BE THE ONLY ONES WHO ARE SILENT. EVERYONE ELSE HAS AN OPINION ON THE SUBJECT. AND THREATS ARE COMING IN CONSTANTLY.

THIS IS GETTING SCARY. PEOPLE ARE GETTING THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT P.E. THIS IS NOT WHAT WE'RE ABOUT.

WELL YOU CAN FIRE ME IF YOU WANT, CHUCK, BUT I'M NOT GOING TO APOLOGIZE.

JUNE 20, EXCERPTS FROM THE POST INTERVIEW ARE PUBLISHED IN THE VILLAGE VOICE, ONE OF THE BAND'S STAUNCHEST SUPPORTERS. IN A QUANDRY OVER WHAT TO DO, CHUCK CALLS A PRESS CONFERENCE.

THE BLACK COMMUNITY IS IN CRISIS. OUR MISSION AS MUSICIANS IS TO ADDRESS THESE PROBLEMS.

GRIFF'S COMMENTS ARE NOT IN LINE. WE ARE NOT ANTI-JEWISH WE ARE PRO-BLACK, AND PRO-HUMAN RACE.

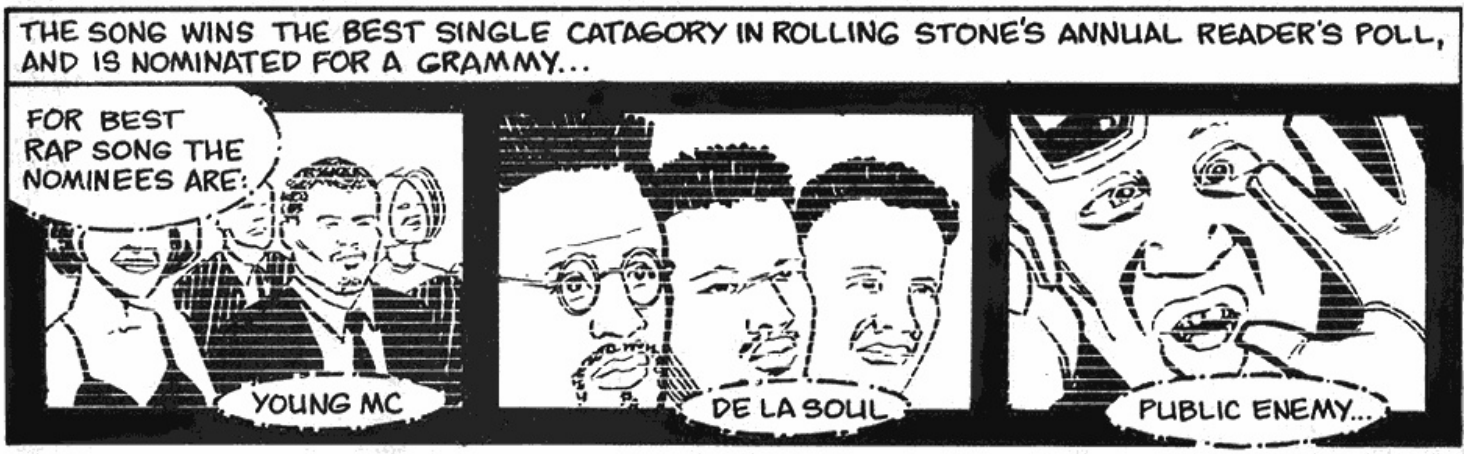
GRIFF WAS TO TRANSMIT THESE VALUES. HE SABOTAGED US.

WE TRIED TO DEAL WITH PROFESSOR GRIFF INTERNALLY

BUT WE COULDN'T.

AFTER THE PRESS CONFERENCE, THINGS ARE PATCHED UP....
OR ARE THEY?
I'VE BEEN PLAYED FOR A SUCKER!
I SHOULD HAVE DEALT WITH THIS BULLSHIT PRIVATELY. WHY THE HELL DID I DO THAT?
HIS INDECISION BEGAN TO WEAR DOWN HIS CREDIBILITY...
WE CAME IN TOGETHER AND WE'LL GO OUT TOGETHER. TELL THE DAMN MEDIA PUBLIC ENEMY IS BREAKING UP!!!
THE NEXT DAY...
PUBLIC ENEMY IS RE-FORMING - WITHOUT PROFESSOR GRIFF! AND WE'RE BOYCOTTING THE MUSIC INDUSTRY!
LATER...
WE'RE LETTING GRIFF BACK IN THE GROUP - BUT HE'S NOT ALLOWED TO SPEAK TO THE PRESS!
AND THEN...
GRIFF IS PERMANENTLY OUT OF PUBLIC ENEMY
FINALLY, SOMETHING POSITIVE. MOVIE PRODUCER SPIKE LEE APPROACHES PUBLIC ENEMY TO PRODUCE A THEME SONG FOR HIS FILM "DO THE RIGHT THING."
I WANTED A SONG THAT WOULD BECOME A STREET ANTHEM.
SPIKE LEE
DIRECTOR

SPIKE LEE AGREES TO DIRECT THE VIDEO FOR "FIGHT THE POWER." THE SHOOTING BECOMES A MAJOR EVENT, THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S MARCH ON BROOKLYN TO END RACIAL VIOLENCE.
BROOKLYN
TERMINATOR X
FLAVOR FLAV
CHUCK D.
FIGHT


THE SONG WINS THE BEST SINGLE CATAGORY IN ROLLING STONE'S ANNUAL READER'S POLL, AND IS NOMINATED FOR A GRAMMY...
FOR BEST RAP SONG THE NOMINEES ARE:
YOUNG MC
DE LA SOUL
PUBLIC ENEMY...

AND THE WINNER IS—
YOUNG MC!
KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP

SHIT, THIS IS BORING! I'M GETTING MY ASS UP THERE!
AND I'D LIKE TO THANK...
CONGRATULATIONS, MAN!
I'D LIKE TO THANK FLAVOR FLAV FOR INTERRUPTING MY BORING SPEECH...

BEFORE THE CONTROVERSY OVER GRIFF HAS COMPLETELY SUBSIDED, P.E.'S PUBLICIST DECIDES TO FAN THE FLAMES OF CONTENTION ONCE MORE BY SENDING A BOOK TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA...

Cress Theory Of Color Confrontation And Racism
by Frances Cress Welsing

IT IS A BOOK WHICH EXPLAINS RACISM AS THE RESULT OF "COLOR DEFICIENT" EUROPEANS FEELING OUTNUMBERED AND INFERIOR.

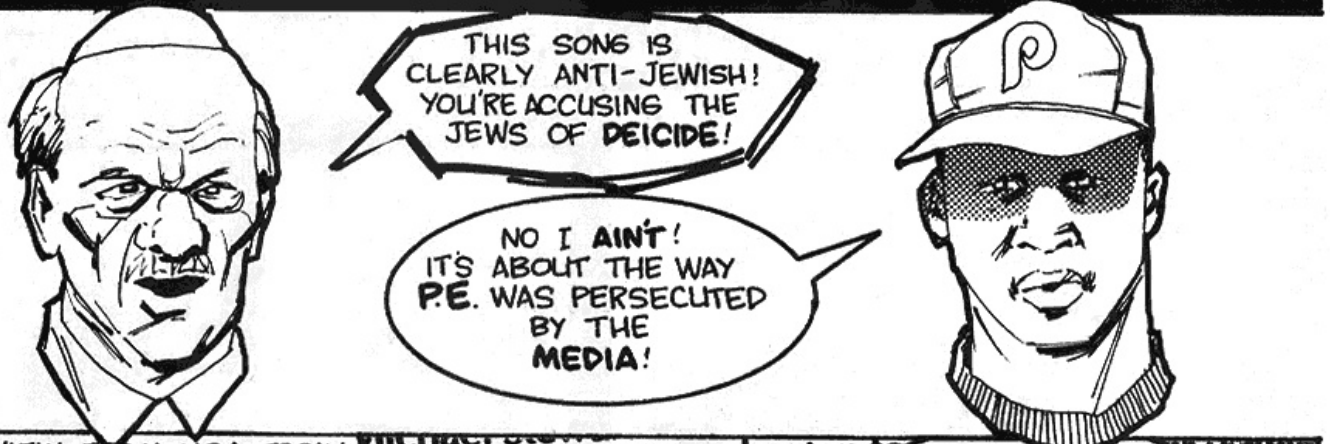
P.E GOES BACK INTO THE STUDIO TO RECORD "FEAR OF A BLACK PLANET."

ICE T RECORDS "THIS ONE'S FOR ME" DEFENDING PUBLIC ENEMY.

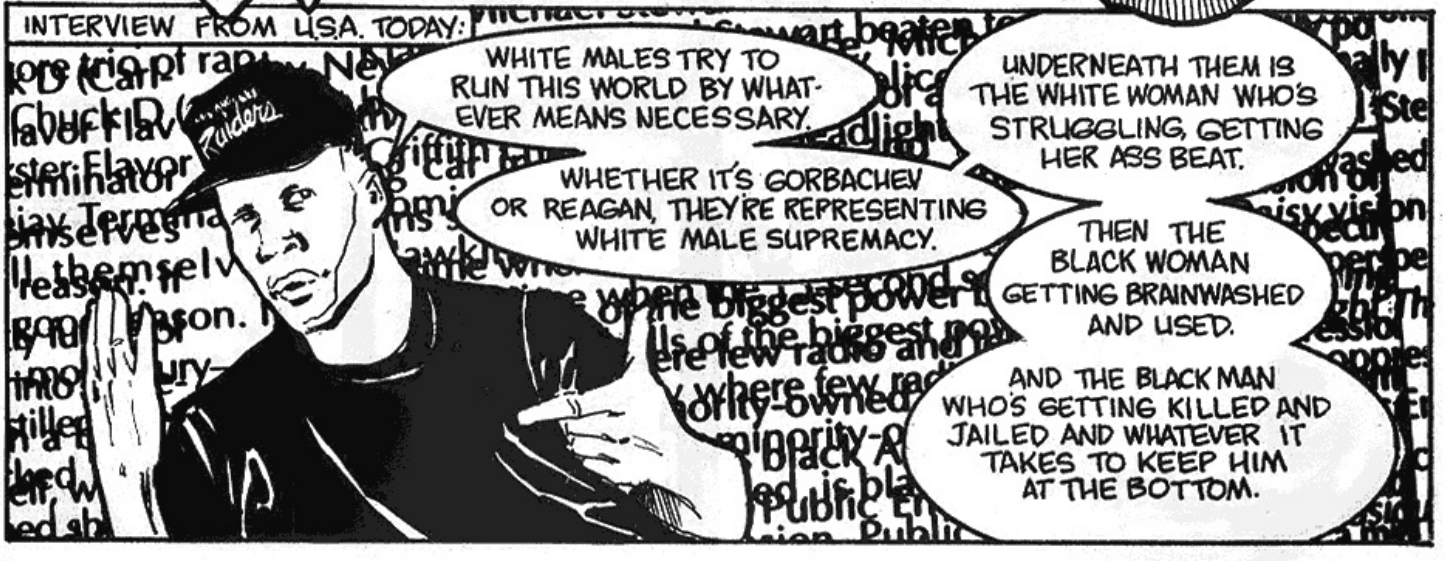
PUBLIC ENEMY BROKE A NEW RAP AGE, AND NOW YOU RAPPERS AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' TO SAY? CAUSE IT'S TIME FOR ME TO ENFORCE SOME DISCIPLINE, ARE YOU DOWN OR NOT, ARE YOU OUT OR IN, CHUCK, FLAV AND GRIFF ARE MY TRUE FRIENDS, I GOT THEIR BACKS IF IT MEANS MY CAREER ENDS. ANYONE OUT THERE GOT PROBLEMS WITH PUBLIC ENEMY -COME TALK TO ME!

THE PRESS AND THE JEWISH COMMUNITY EXAMINE THE LYRICS OF THE NEW ALBUM, AND ARE HIGHLY DISPLEASED WITH A LINE IN "WELCOME TO THE TERRORDOME":

CRUCIFIXION AIN'T NO FICTION
SO CALLED CHOSEN,
FROZEN
APOLOGY MADE TO WHOEVER PLEASES;
STILL THEY GOT ME LIKE JESUS.


THIS SONG IS CLEARLY ANTI-JEWISH! YOU'RE ACCUSING THE JEWS OF DEICIDE!
NO I AIN'T! IT'S ABOUT THE WAY P.E. WAS PERSECUTED BY THE MEDIA!

INTERVIEW FROM USA. TODAY:


WHITE MALES TRY TO RUN THIS WORLD BY WHATEVER MEANS NECESSARY.
WHETHER IT'S GORBACHEV OR REAGAN, THEY'RE REPRESENTING WHITE MALE SUPREMACY.
UNDERNEATH THEM IS THE WHITE WOMAN WHO'S STRUGGLING, GETTING HER ASS BEAT.
THEN THE BLACK WOMAN GETTING BRAINWASHED AND USED.
AND THE BLACK MAN WHO'S GETTING KILLED AND JAILED AND WHATEVER IT TAKES TO KEEP HIM AT THE BOTTOM.

SUNDAY JUNE 17 1990
PUBLIC ENEMY LEADS A MASSIVE PRO-BLACK DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE.
WE MUST ORGANIZE AND CONTINUE TO RALLY FOR OUR RIGHTS. WE MUST NOT BE SILENT ANY MORE!
BOOM TIP BOOM BOOM TIP
BUT SOMETIMES WHEN YOU TRY TO FIGHT THE POWERS THAT BE... THE POWERS THAT BE FIGHT BACK! AT A PEACEFUL CONCERT IN L.A.....
TIP BOOM TIP BOOM BOOM KREET.
....THE POLICE, IN THE GUISE OF 'PROTECTING THE PUBLIC', STORM A SHOW AT 'THE PALACE'..
ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE OUT!
YOU HEARD HIM, MOVE!
MOVE!
LATER THAT NIGHT, IN FRONT OF THE CLUB....
THIS YOUR CAR?
YEAH..
LET'S SEE SOME I.D.

LATER THAT MONTH, 'SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE' IS RECEIVING MASSIVE PUBLICITY FOR SCHEDULING CONTROVERSIAL COMEDIAN ANDREW DICE CLAY TO APPEAR AS HOST. MUSICAL GUEST SINEAD O'CONNOR BOYCOTTS THE SHOW.

I HEARD ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS WITH THAT BALD GIRL. HOW ABOUT LETTING PUBLIC ENEMY FILL IN?

I DON'T THINK SO BUT THANKS FOR THE OFFER.

LUTHER CAMPBELL, LEADER OF 2 LIVE CREW, FAST TAKING OVER P.E. AS MOST CONTROVERSIAL BAND, DECIDES TO SIGN PROFESSOR GRIFF.

PUBLIC ENEMY RELEASES A VIDEO: FIGHT THE POWER LIVE.

ENEMY

FIGHT THE LIVE POWER

WAIT A MINUTE, WAIT A MINUTE, HOLD UP NOW, CONTROVERSY, CONTROVERSY, THIS WHOLE STORY HAS BEEN ABOUT THE CONTROVERSY OF THE GROUP, YOU'VE HARDLY EVEN TOUCHED ON OUR PHILOSOPHY! PUBLIC ENEMY WAS THE FIRST RAP GROUP TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF RAISING BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS IN THE PROCESS, P.E. INSPIRED THE LIKES OF KRS-ONE OF BOOGIE DOWN PRODUCTIONS AND MANY OTHER RAPPERS TO TAKE UP THE BATON IN AN EFFORT TO SHOW BLACKS THE NECESSITY OF FOSTERING SELF-PRIDE!

"THERE IS WIDESPREAD ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT SOCIETY IS REACHING A BOILING POINT, WHAT WITH CRUMBLING GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEMS, HOMELESSNESS, DRUGS, GANGS, THE DECENTRALIZATION OF BLACK LIFE AND CULTURE."

Dr. King Shot to Death in Memphis

PRISON STORMED

Hostages, 28 Co

"P.E. SUPPLIES INSIGHT INTO THESE PROBLEMS, AND, WHO KNOWS, POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS."

IF WE ALL DO THE RIGHT THING, THE 90'S WILL BE A BETTER PLACE. BUT IF PEOPLE KEEP DOING WHAT THEY'RE DOING- WELCOME TO THE TERRORDOME. WE'RE AT THE BREAKING POINT.

THIS IS AN UNAUTHORIZED BIOGRAPHY!

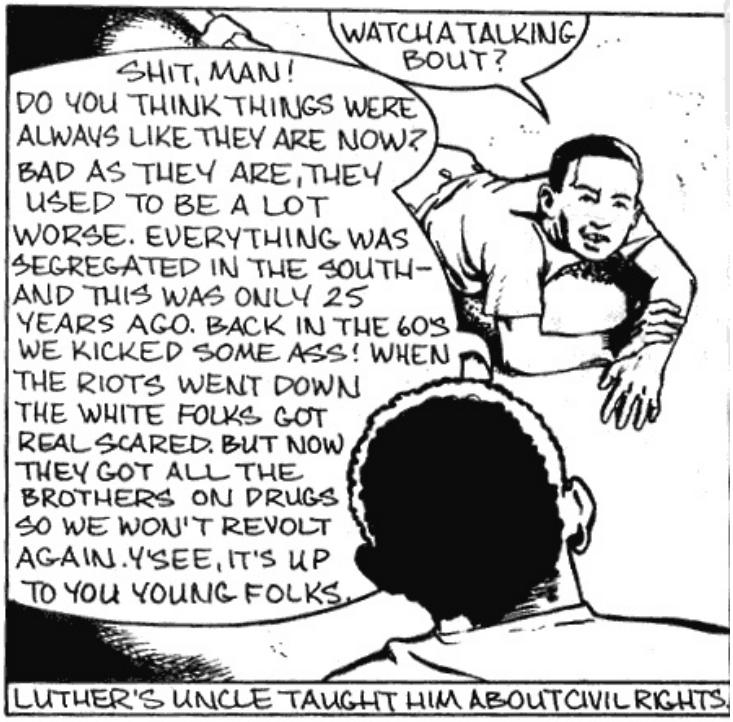
2 LIVE CREW 1 BRAVE MOTHER

STORY : TODD LOREN ART : STUART IMMONEN LETTERING : MARY KELLEHER

LIBERTY CITY, MIAMI – ARGUABLY THE WORST SLUM IN THE CITY. THOSE BORN HERE WILL DIE HERE. THAT'S THE WAY THE SYSTEM WORKS. AND THE SYSTEM WORKS WELL FOR THOSE IN POWER.

LUTHER CAMPBELL IS LIVING WITH HIS PARENTS AND FOUR BROTHERS. ON SUNDAYS, HIS UNCLE WOULD VISIT...

WATCHA WASTING YOUR TIME WITH CARTOONS? DON'T YOU KNOW THERE'S PEOPLE ON T.V. RIGHT NOW TALKING BOUT PUTTING CHAINS ON YOU? YOU BETTER LEARN WHERE IT'S AT BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!


WATCHA TALKING BOUT?
SHIT, MAN! DO YOU THINK THINGS WERE ALWAYS LIKE THEY ARE NOW? BAD AS THEY ARE, THEY USED TO BE A LOT WORSE. EVERYTHING WAS SEGREGATED IN THE SOUTH- AND THIS WAS ONLY 25 YEARS AGO. BACK IN THE 60S WE KICKED SOME ASS! WHEN THE RIOTS WENT DOWN THE WHITE FOLKS GOT REAL SCARED. BUT NOW THEY GOT ALL THE BROTHERS ON DRUGS SO WE WON'T REVOLT AGAIN. Y'SEE, IT'S UP TO YOU YOUNG FOLKS.

LUTHER'S UNCLE TAUGHT HIM ABOUT CIVIL RIGHTS.

SCHOOL IN THE SLUMS HAD BECOME IRRELEVANT. THE DRUNKEN TEACHERS AND OUTMODED TEACHING METHODS DISCOURAGED EVEN THE SMARTEST STUDENT. AND A POTENTIALLY BRILLIANT SCHOLAR, LUTHER WAS NEGLECTED BY THE SYSTEM.

LUTHER FINDS A MORE INTERESTING PASTIME.

IN THE ELEVENTH GRADE, LUTHER IS BUSED TO A WHITE SCHOOL IN MIAMI BEACH...

THIS IS A DISGRACE! YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY A VERY SMART YOUNG MAN, AND YOU CAN'T READ OR WRITE. WE'LL CHANGE THAT!
THIS BITCH HAS GOT HER SHIT DOWN!

READING OPENS DOORS FOR LUTHER...

GHETTO STYLE D.J.'S !!

HE BECOMES A DANCE D.J., AND WITHIN A YEAR IS PROMOTING RAP CONCERTS.

BUT A YOUNG BLACK BUSINESS MAN IS NOT AN EASY THING TO BE. WITH SO MANY JOBLESS, JEALOUSY ERUPTS.

YOU THINK YOU BAD, MOTHERFUCKER? WHO SAID YOU COULD HAVE YO LITTLE FAGGOT DANCES IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD?

DON'T FUCK WITH ME, NIGGER!

LUTHER AND HIS POSSE ARE FORCED TO DEFEND THEMSELVES. SOMETIMES VIOLENCE ERUPTS.

KILLER BEES

KILLER BEES

WHEN THE POLICE SHOW UP, THEY THROW EVERYONE IN JAIL, EVEN LUTHER.

THAT'S FOUR PRIOR ARRESTS, LUTHER. YOU'RE GONNA BE HERE A SPELL.

SHIT, MAN, YOU CAN COUNT DO ANOTHER FUCKIN' TRICK!

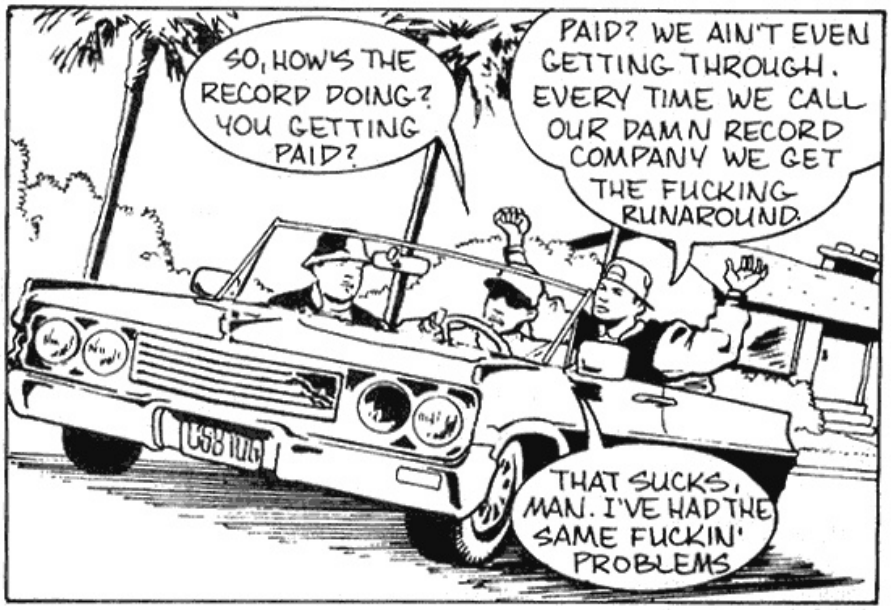
BACK ON THE DANCE SCENE, A RECORD CATCHES LUTHER'S ATTENTION...

"REVELATION IN A BEAT BOX BY THE 2 LIVE CREW." MAN, THOSE MOTHERFUCKERS DANCE THE SHIT OUTTA THIS ONE! I'M GONNA FOLLOW UP ON THIS SHIT.

HE BRINGS THE 2 LIVE CREW TO MIAMI...

YO, BROTHER, I'M CHRIS WONG WON. THIS HERE IS MY D.J. DAVID HOBBS.

WHAT IT IS.

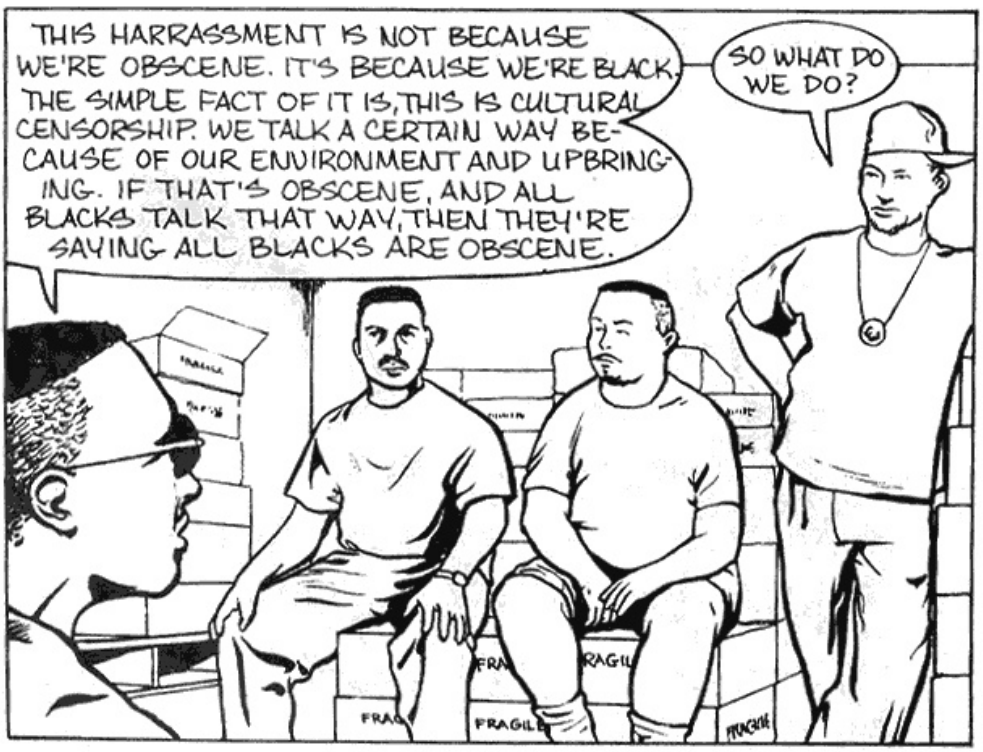

SO, HOW'S THE RECORD DOING? YOU GETTING PAID?
PAID? WE AIN'T EVEN GETTING THROUGH. EVERY TIME WE CALL OUR DAMN RECORD COMPANY WE GET THE FUCKING RUNAROUND.
THAT SUCKS, MAN. I'VE HAD THE SAME FUCKIN' PROBLEMS

AFTER MUCH THOUGHT AND DISCUSSIO
LUTHER MAKES A DECISION...
YOUR PROBLEMS ARE OVER WITH THOSE RECORD COMPANY SHITHEADS.
NO SHIT?
NO SHIT. I'M STARTIN MY OWN RECORD COMPAN IT'LL BE CALLED SKYYWALKE RECORDS. AND MY RAP NAME I GONNA BE LUKE SKYYWALKER

UH, WON'T YOU GET IN TROUBLE FOR THAT?
NAH, IT'S A CHARACTER IN A FUCKIN' MOVIE. THERE'S NO CONNECTION - THEY'RE TWO COMPLETELY DIFFERENT THINGS.
BESIDES, WE'RE TOO SMALL FOR THAT STAR WARS MOTHERFUCKER TO BOTHER WITH US.

THEIR FIRST RECORD TOGETHER IS A SINGLE CALLED "THROW THE D."
MIAMI'S HOTTEST
DANCE CRA !
'THROW THE !
ON SALE HERE
THROW THE
AT FIRST HE SELLS THEM AT LOCAL SWAP MEETS. EVENTUALLY IT CATCHES ON & SELLS 200,000 COPIES.

NEW YORK RAPPER MARK ROSS JOINS UP. THEY RELEASE THEIR FIRST ALBUM THE 2 LIVE CREW IS WHAT WE ARE, IN 1986. THERE WERE A COUPLE RISQUE NUMBERS SUCH AS "WE WANT SOME PUSS A CLERK IN FLORIDA IS ARRESTED FOR SELLING A COPY TO A MINOR...
...THE CASE IS DROPPED, BUT AN OMINOUS STAGE IS SET FOR FUTURE PROBLEMS.


THIS HARRASSMENT IS NOT BECAUSE WE'RE OBSCENE. IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE BLACK. THE SIMPLE FACT OF IT IS, THIS IS CULTURAL CENSORSHIP. WE TALK A CERTAIN WAY BECAUSE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT AND UPBRINGING. IF THAT'S OBSCENE, AND ALL BLACKS TALK THAT WAY, THEN THEY'RE SAYING ALL BLACKS ARE OBSCENE.
SO WHAT DO WE DO?
FRAGILE

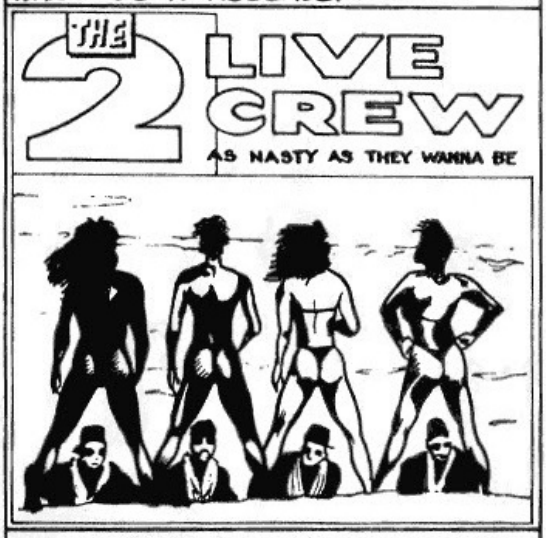
IF THEY GONNA FUCK US UP, WE GONNA GIVE THEM A FUCKIN' GOOD REASON TO!
3.

THE NEXT ALBUM, *MOVE SOMETHIN'* IS EVEN MORE EXPLICIT. IT INCLUDES THE SONGS "S&M" AND "HEAD, BOOTY AND COCK". IT GOES PLATINUM AND LEADS TO AN ARREST IN ALABAMA.

SHUT UP. WE DECIDE WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT SELL.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT? I'M JUST A RECORD STORE OWNER - WHY ARE YOU HASSLING ME? THERE'S CRIMINALS OUT THERE STEALING CARS & HOLDING UP BANKS!

THE THIRD ALBUM, *AS NASTY AS THEY WANNA BE* IS RELEASED.



IT IS FAR MORE EXPLICIT THAN ANY PREVIOUS EFFORT. AT FIRST, THE SALES ARE ABOUT THE SAME AS THE PREVIOUS ALBUM.

BY NOW LUTHER IS RICH. HE HAS ACQUIRED A VARIED FINANCIAL PORTFOLIO, EXPENSIVE CARS, A JET PLANE, AND A PALATIAL HOME. HE IS READY TO ***KICK SOME ASS!***

SO WHAT'S THE PLAN, LUTHER?

WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GONNA BE GETTING SOME HEAVY SHIT THIS TIME.

THEY'RE GONNA COME AFTER US WITH ALL KINDA SHIT ABOUT CORRUPTING MINORS. SO, WE'LL JUST MAKE SURE THEY CAN'T THROW THAT SHIT AT US.

HOW YOU GONNA DO THAT?

WELL, WE'LL JUST BE VERY CAREFUL. FIRST OF ALL, WE'LL PUT OUT TWO SEPARATE VERSIONS OF THE ALBUM - ONE FOR MINORS AND ONE FOR ADULTS - THE ADULT VERSION WILL BE CLEARLY LABELLED - *ADULTS ONLY*. THEN WHEN WE DO SHOWS, IF THERE'S MINORS PRESENT, WE WON'T SAY ANY NASTY WORDS.

HOW WE GONNA DO THAT, LUTHER? EVERY LINE HAS 'FUCK' IN IT!

SHIT MAN, MAYBE THEY CAN ARREST US, BUT THEY CAN'T ARREST THE WHOLE DAMN AUDIENCE!

WE WANT SOME—

PUSSY!

2 LIVE CREW

Y'SEE, THEY CAN'T STOP US IF IT'S STRICTLY ADULTS! THE FIRST AMENDMENT IS VERY CLEAR ON THAT POINT - ADULTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY WHAT THEY WANT IN AMERICA.

AT LEAST THAT WAS THE WAY IT HAD ALWAYS BEEN. BUT THIS WAS THE AGE OF BUSH, FOLLOWING THE AGE OF REAGAN.

I'M HEREBY ORDERING THE REMOVAL OF THE ALBUM "*AS NASTY AS THEY WANNA BE*" FROM ALL STORES IN LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

POLICE BEGIN THEIR RAIDS ON LEE COUNTY RECORD STORES.

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SALE OF ANY COPIES OF *"NASTY AS THEY WANNA BE"* BY 2 LIVE CREW IS ILLEGAL, AND ALL COPIES MUST BE REMOVED.

THE STORE OWNERS, FEARFUL OF BAD PUBLICITY & POSSIBLE ARREST, COMPLY WILLINGLY.

WITHIN WEEKS, FLORIDA GOVERNOR BOB MARTIN DECLARES...

WAR ON 2 LIVE CREW! I WANT THIS OBSCENITY STOPPED NOW!

WHAT A GREAT ISSUE TO GRANDSTAND ON! I'LL COME OFF PRO-DECENCY, ANTI-OBSCENITY, AND GET RE-ELECTED BY A LANDSLIDE! NO ONE WILL OPPOSE ME, AND RISK BEING LABELLED PORN ADVOCATES!

WEA, THE LARGEST DISTRIBUTOR OF ALBUMS, DOES THE TRADITIONAL RECORD COMPANY THING: THEY WIMP OUT.

THE BOTTOM LINE HERE IS, WE CAN'T AFFORD TO BE SHIPPING LABELLED PRODUCT. I WANT YOU TO TELL ALL OF YOUR PEOPLE TO TONE DOWN THE LYRICAL CONTENT OF THEIR MATERIAL. GET LYRIC SHEETS FROM THE GROUPS BEFORE THEY ENTER THE STUDIO.

STICKERING LAWS ARE INTRODUCED IN MANY STATES.

NOW THERE ARE LABELING-BILLS PENDING IN ABOUT SEVEN STATES. HOW CAN ONE ALBUM CAUSE SUCH A STIR?

THERE'S PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO SEE A BROTHER GETTING RICH AND THEY CAN'T STAND IT. THAT'S WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.

AMID THE CONTROVERSY, THE ALBUM STARTS WORKING ITS WAY BACK UP THE CHARTS, GOING DOUBLE PLATINUM.

(32)	42	56	20	FAITH NO MORE SLAS
33	30	28	103	PAULA ABDUL ▲⁶ VIRGIN
34	32	32	4	MILLI VANILLI ARISTA
35	34	40	7	TONY! TONI! TONE! WIN
(36)	54	77	50	TWO LIVE CREW ▲ SKY
37	38	46	57	CLINT BLACK ▲ RCA
(38)	47	49	43	L.A. GUNS VERTIGO
39	39	38	38	LINDA RONSTADT (FE
40	45	37	17	MIDNIGHT OIL ● COLUN
(41)	80	—	2	MARIAH CAREY COLUM
42	44	49	70	SOUNDTRACK

©1990 Billboard Publications

IN MARCH OF 1990, *"NASTY,"* ALONG WITH N.W.A.'S *"STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON"* ARE RULED OBSCENE IN TENNESSEE, HOME STATE OF TIPPER GORE OF P.M.R.C.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER STEPHEN D. WHERLEY PURCHASED THE TAPES AT A LOCAL RECORD STORE AND GAVE THEM TO DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOE BAUGH TO RULE ON.

AS IF THEY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PROBLEMS, THERE'S MORE TROUBLE BREWING.

WE'RE BEING SUED BY GEORGE LUCAS! SHIT, LIKE WE AIN'T GOT ENOUGH FUCKIN' SHIT TO DEAL WITH, NOW THEY WANNA TAKE AWAY MY FUCKIN' NAME!

HOW MUCH IS HE SUING FOR?

THREE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS!

AS THE RIAA (THE RECORD INDUSTRY'S LOBBYING GROUP) INTRODUCES ITS OWN STICKER...

PARENTAL ADVISORY EXPLICIT LYRICS

THE STATES BACK OFF ON THEIR LABELING LAWS.

LUTHER CHANGES SKYYWALKER RECORDS TO *SKYYLINE RECORDS* AND THEN ADDS THE LUKE LABEL. HE ALSO MUST APPEASE LUCAS BY USING HIS OWN NAME, LUTHER CAMPBELL, FROM NOW ON.

FUCK GEORGE LUCAS!

2 LIVE CREW

SKYYWALKER RECORDS

JUNE 6, 1990. JUDGE JOSE GONZALES DECLARES THAT "*NASTY*" CANNOT BE SOLD LEGALLY IN SOUTHEAST FLORIDA.

... BECAUSE IT VIOLATES COMMUNITY STANDARDS.

IT MARKS THE FIRST TIME THAT ADULTS ARE KEPT FROM PURCHASING THE ALBUM IN THREE COUNTIES. SELLING IT TO MINORS BECOMES A ***FELONY***.

AS WARRANTS ARE ISSUED FOR THE ARREST OF 2 LIVE CREW, THE PUBLICITY REACHES A FEVER PITCH.

Rap, racism h... sound ho...

If 2 Live Crew Offends, Don't Listen

2 Live Crew Singer Arrested After Sh...

WATCHDOGS HELP HYPE 2 LIVE CREW

BROWARD COUNTY SHERIFF NICK NAVARRO VOWS TO ENFORCE THE RULING AND ARRESTS LUTHER & CHRIS.

I AM GOING TO SET YOU FREE WITHOUT BOND, AND A COURT DATE WILL BE SET AT A LATER TIME.

IF CONVICTED THEY FACE UP TO A YEAR IN JAIL AND A $1000. FINE.

A WAR OF WORDS BEGINS BETWEEN THE PRO-FIRST AMENDMENT AND OBSCENITY FORCES...

TO HAVE A DOZEN OFFICERS SPENDING ALL THIS TIME OVER DIRTY LYRICS SEEMS TO ME TO BE OBSCENE. *BRUCE ROGOW, 2 LIVE LAWYER*

THIS GLORIFIES SEXUAL BRUTALIZATION OF WOMEN. *MIAMI LAWYER JACK THOMPSON*

BLACK GROUPS ARE BEING TARGETED BECAUSE RAP IS SO POPULAR AMONG YOUNG WHITE KIDS. *NELSON GEORGE VILLAGE VOICE*

THE SUPREME COURT HAS NEVER GIVEN PROTECTED SPEECH RIGHTS TO OBSCENITY. *REV. DONALD WILDMON*

THIS IS CERTAINLY A CAUSE FOR WHICH I'M WILLING TO BE ARRESTED. *MADONNA*

THE MOST SEXUALLY EXPLICIT, VIOLENT, GRAPHIC ALBUM EVER MADE. *JACK THOMPSON*

POLITICIANS WHO DON'T HAVE COMMUNISM TO WORRY ABOUT NOW ARE POINTING THEIR FINGERS AT BLACK RAPPERS. *MICHAEL GREENE, PRES. NARAS*

MOST OUTSPOKEN OF ALL IS SHERIFF NICK NAVARRO.

NAVARRO IS A PUBLICITY-CRAZED BLOWHARD WHO'D SEND A SWAT TEAM AFTER JAYWALKERS IF IT WOULD GET HIM 30 SECONDS ON "NIGHTLINE."

THE INITIAL RECORD INDUSTRY REACTION IS PRACTICALLY NONEXISTENT.

THE RECORD INDUSTRY SHOULD BE ASHAMED.

I'LL BE AMAZED IF THE MAJOR LABELS DO ANYTHING.

THE MAJOR LABELS WOULD BE PERFECTLY HAPPY TO SEE LUTHER GO TO JAIL.

DAVE MARSH CRITIC/AUTHOR

FRANK ZAPPA

THERE'S NO ORGANIZED COALITION FIGHTING BACK.

BILL ADLER - RAP PROMOTER

MIKE DIAMOND - BEASTIE BOYS

MORE RECORD STORES NATIONWIDE PULL "*NASTY*" IN THE MIDST OF THIS. BILLBOARD RUNS THIS HEADLINE:

"Nasty" Ruling, Arrest Galvanize Industry

THE ARTICLE OFFERS LITTLE PROOF UNDERLYING THIS CONCLUSION.

IN LATE JUNE, AN ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE: BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN APPROVES THE USE OF THE MELODY *BORN IN THE U.S.A.* FOR AN UPCOMING 2 LIVE CREW SINGLE "*BANNED IN THE U.S.A.*"

THAT WAS SPRINGSTEEN ON THE PHONE! HE OK'D *BANNED IN THE U.S.A.!*

THE FUROR CONTINUES AS LUTHER GIVES THE MEDIA PLENTY TO WORK WITH...

I'VE GOT A SEVEN-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER, AND I DON'T WANT HER LISTENING TO THE ALBUM. SO I GIVE HER THE CLEAN VERSION!

IN LATE JUNE, 2 LIVE FINALLY GETS SOME SUPPORT FROM THE NATION'S RADIO STATIONS. A SAN ANTONIO STATION RUNS A "NASTY AS YOU WANNA BE OUTLAW WEEKEND" PROMOTION. MANY STATIONS RUN PRO-2 LIVE EDITORIALS.

THE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION IS NOT WHETHER 2 LIVE CREW'S LYRICS ARE OBSCENE —

THE ISSUE IS WHETHER ANY FORM OF ENTERTAINMENT SHOULD BE PROSECUTED FOR OBSCENITY IF IT IS SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED TO ADULT CONSUMPTION.

CRITICS SEE RADIO'S RESPONSE AS TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE, AND TOO INSINCERE.

PRIOR TO ITS RELEASE, *BANNED IN THE U.S.A.* HAS PRE-ORDERS OF OVER A MILLION COPIES. YET IT STILL ONLY BREAKS AT #81 ON THE BILLBOARD CHART

THIS IS FUCKIN' BULLSHIT! NO SINGLE HAS EVER SOLD AS FAST AS THIS ONE! IT SHOULD BREAK HIGHER THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE EVER IN THE **TOP TEN**!

Billboard

BY JULY THE RECORD INDUSTRY HAS FINALLY TAKEN STEPS TO SUPPORT 2 LIVE CREW.

Billboard

Industry Leaders Stand Up For Crew

URGE ACTION AGAINST ALL CENSORSHIP EFFORTS

THEY PLAN A PROTEST IN WASHINGTON, BOYCOTTS, LEGAL ASSISTANCE, BENEFITS.

MEANWHILE, 2 LIVE CREW CONTINUES TO TOUR AT A BREAKNECK PACE...

BANNED IN THE U.S.A.

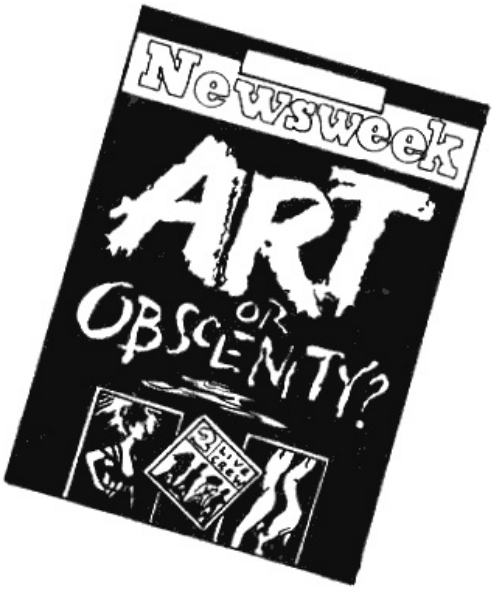
WE'RE 2 LIVE, 2 BLACK AND 2 STRONG!

ATLANTIC RECORDS ENTERS INTO A PARTNERSHIP WITH LUTHER'S 'LUKE RECORDS'...
I'M SURE WE'LL FIND THIS ARRANGEMENT MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL.
YEAH, I'M WITH IT.
BLACK STRONG LIVE
BY NOW, INDUSTRY RHETORIC REFLECTS A REAL COMMITMENT TO BACK UP THE 2 LIVE CREW. AT A CONVENTION OF RADIO PROGRAMMERS, EVEN KEYNOTE SPEAKER HOWARD COSELL JUMPS ON THE PRO-CREW BANDWAGON...
FREE SPEECH IS SOMETHING WHICH ALL BROADCASTERS MUST DEFEND, AND WE MUST BACK UP THE FIRST AMENDMENT AGAINST ALL ENCROACHMENTS
DALLAS, TEXAS, JULY 8, 1990:
WHAT'S GOING ON? CAN WE DO THE SHOW?
IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD. THE FIRE MARSHALL SAYS THEY CAN'T SELL GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS.
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE THE LONGHORN BALLROOM IS A PRIVATE CLUB, AND THAT VIOLATES SOME KIND OF ORDINANCE.
MAN, IS THAT THE BEST THEY CAN DO? THEY'RE BANNING US WITH SOME FUCKIN' OBSCURE ORDINANCE ABOUT PRIVATE CLUBS AND GENERAL ADMISSION?
LOOKS THAT WAY, BRO.
SHIT. I'LL GIVE BRUCE A CALL. YO, BRUCE? I GOT A FIRE MARSHALL HERE IN DALLAS SAYIN' WE CAN'T PERFORM. CAN YOU GREASE A FEW PALMS AND PULL A FEW STRINGS? RIGHT. I'LL BE RIGHT HERE.
AFTER A PAINSTAKING PROCESS OF PHONE CALLS AND NEGOTIATIONS, THE CREW IS CLEARED TO PERFORM BY A TEXAS JUDGE...

WE'LL GO ON AS SOON AS WE GET PAID. WE BEEN RIPPED OFF TOO MANY TIMES. WE GOT A RULE: NO PAY, NO PLAY.
WITH THAT, PANDEMONIUM BREAKS OUT, THE WAIT-WEARY CROWD IGNITES INTO A VIOLENT RAGE! BLACKS, WHITES, AND MEXICANS UNITED IN A SINGLE CAUSE.
ECURITY
SECURITY
10.

WHEN THE DUST CLEARS, THE 2 LIVE CREW'S NON-VIOLENT STANDING IS TARNISHED...

THE PUBLICITY CONTINUES TO RAGE ON. THE COVER OF "NASTY" IS USED ON THE COVER OF **NEWSWEEK**.



THE STORY IS NOW SEEN REGULARLY ON ALL MAJOR NETWORKS. **USA TODAY** DEVOTES THEIR OPINION PAGE TO THE 2 LIVE CREW ISSUE.

USA TODAY
DEBATE
DON'T MAKE MARTYRS OUT OF 2 LIVE CREW
ENFORCE OBSCENITY LAWS AGAINST 2 LIVE CREW
TREATING WOMEN AS SEX OBJECTS
QUOTELINES

A TOUR OF THE WESTERN STATES IS CANCELLED, NOT BECAUSE OF CENSORSHIP, BUT BECAUSE OF-

THE ALBUM "*BANNED IN THE U.S.A.*" IS RELEASED, WITH LUTHER STANDING IN FRONT OF AN AMERICAN FLAG.

...AND A SPECIAL MESSAGE INSIDE FOR ALL HIS DETRACTORS!

The New CENSORSHIP

EARLY 1985. **TIPPER GORE**, WIFE OF TENNESSEE SENATOR ALBERT GORE, IS AT HER AEROBICS CLASS WHEN SUDDENLY...

I KNEW A GIRL NAMED NIKKI, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY SHE WAS A SEX FIEND. I MET HER IN A HOTEL LOBBY MASTURBATING WITH A MAGAZINE...

A Brief History researched and written by TODD LOREN

Art-Stuart Immonen
Letters-Mary Kelleher

WHAT WAS THAT?

IT WAS "MASTURBATING," FOLKS. SOMETHING WHICH TIPPER AND HER FRIENDS DO NOT FIND SUITABLE FOR AEROBICISING TO. ALTHOUGH IT CAN AID IN A WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM IF PRACTICED VIGOROUSLY.

THIS IS AN OUTRAGE. MY DAUGHTER COULD'VE BEEN LISTENING TO THAT! MARK MY WORDS, SUSAN, FIRST COMES NAUGHTY MUSIC, THEN **HEROIN ADDICTION!**

ANOTHER MARTINI, MRS. GORE?

HOW MANY IS THAT?

THREE.

OH, WHY NOT! I DESERVE IT WHAT WITH THE TYPE OF DAY I'M HAVING. (HIC!)

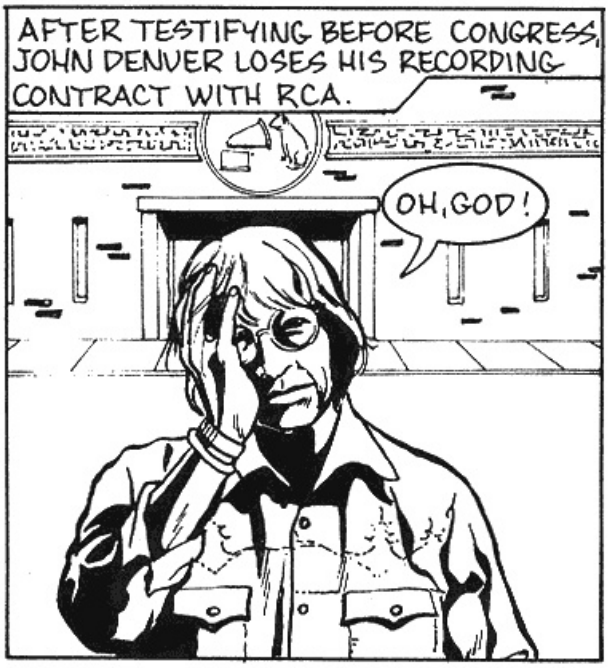
YOU KNOW, TIPP, THIS MIGHT BE THE OPPORTUNITY WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR. AREN'T YOU TIRED OF SHOPPING, COOKING, AND BEATING THE KIDS DAY IN AND DAY OUT?

WELL, I COULD USE A CHANGE OF PACE.

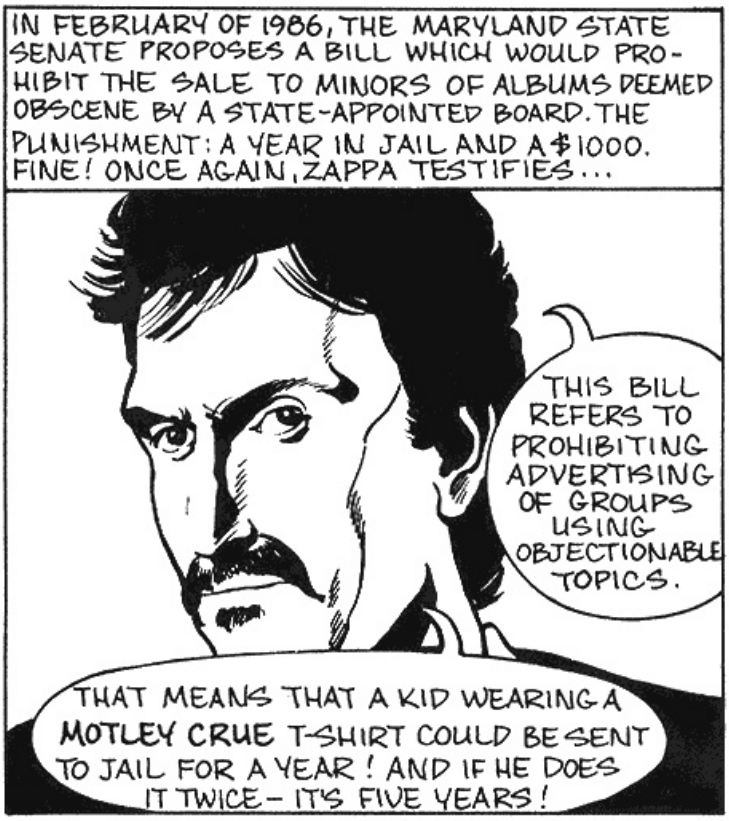
WELL, WHY NOT A HOBBY? IN OUR SPARE TIME WE COULD COORDINATE A LEVERAGED POWER-GRAB BY PLAYING ON THE GUILT OF BABY BOOMER PARENTS LOOKING FOR A SCAPE-GOAT TO BLAME FOR THEIR LACK OF COMMITMENT TO THEIR CHILDREN!

AND WHO WOULD BE THE SCAPEGOAT?

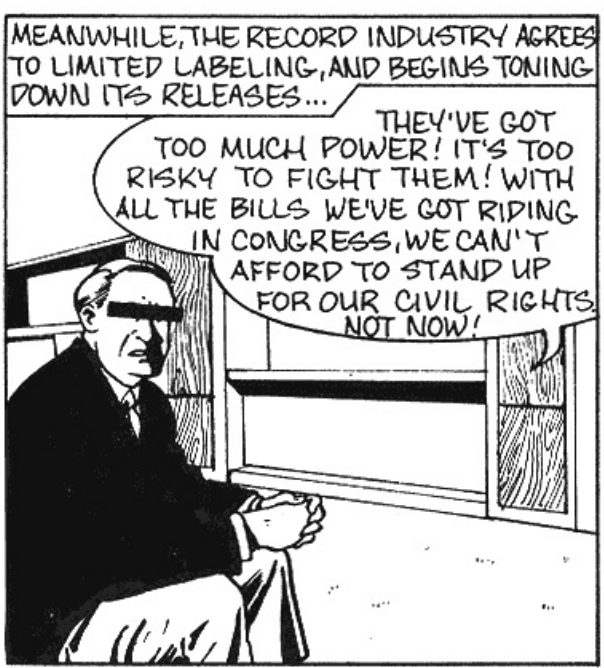
THE RECORDING INDUSTRY, OF COURSE! YOU KNOW, ROCK, RAP, DISCO, AND ALL THAT DEGENERATE NOISE YOU HEARD AT THE AEROBICS CLASS! IT'S PERFECT! AFTER ALL, WHO WOULD DEFEND IT?
NOT THE MUSIC INDUSTRY. THEY'RE TOO BUSY LOBBYING FOR A TAX ON TAPES.
IT'S A GREAT IDEA! BUT WHAT WILL AL THINK? AFTER ALL, HE DOES WANT TO BE PRESIDENT.
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! THIS IS THE AGE OF REAGAN CONSERVATISM! AS LONG AS THEY'RE MAKING PAYMENTS ON THEIR HONDAS THEY'RE HAPPY!
ALL RIGHT, AS LONG AS WE LEAVE COUNTRY MUSIC ALONE. I LOVE THAT RONNIE MILSAP!
WITH SEED MONEY FROM BEACH BOY MIKE LOVE, TIPPER AND SUSAN FORM P.M.R.C. (PARENT'S MUSIC RESOURCE CENTER), AND SEND A LIST OF DEMANDS TO THE RECORD INDUSTRY.
HERE'S THE DEAL: IF A RECORD MENTIONS SEX, IT'S RATED X, IF THERE IS ANY REFERENCE TO THE OCCULT, IT'S LABELED O, AND ANY REFERENCE TO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL WOULD PUT A D/A ON THE COVER.
x - sex
o - occ
d/a - d
PLUS, ALL LYRICS MUST BE CLEARLY PRINTED ON THE OUTSIDE JACKET.
I DON'T GET IT. WHAT'S THE POINT OF STICKERING ALBUMS?
SIMPLE, SUSAN! WE CAN ORGANIZE BOYCOTTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS AT ALL MALLS IN WHICH STORES CARRY STICKERED ALBUMS
...THESE STORES WILL THEN BE FORCED TO STOP CARRYING ALBUMS OR RISK LOSING THEIR LEASE! YOU SEE, IF WE CAN'T CENSOR BY LAW, THERE ARE LOADS OF OTHER WAYS TO DO IT!
SOON, A CONGRESSIONAL HEARING IS HELD. THE ONLY RECORDING ARTISTS BRAVE ENOUGH TO ATTEND ARE ON THE OUTER FRINGES OF THE INDUSTRY. MAINSTREAM ROCKERS SUCH AS PRINCE (WHOSE SONG "DARLING NIKKI" STARTED THE WHOLE THING) ARE NOTICEABLY ABSENT. THOSE ATTENDING ARE: FRANK ZAPPA, A BRILLIANTLY CONTROVERSIAL MUSICIAN WITH A SMALL BUT EXTREMELY DEDICATED FOLLOWING, JOHN DENVER, FORMER SUPERSTAR OF THE MUSIC INDUSTRY, WHO ONCE GOT HEAT FOR HIS "ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH" SONG AS BEING ABOUT DRUGS (IT WAS ABOUT THE SCENERY), AND HOSTED A T.V. SPECIAL ON THE HISTORY OF CENSORSHIP AND DEE SNIDER, LEAD SINGER OF TWISTED SISTER, PERHAPS THE SILLIEST OF THE 1985 BATCH OF NEW FACES IN METAL.
THE P.M.R.C.'S DEMANDS ARE EQUIVALENT TO TREATING DANDRUFF WITH DECAPITATION. NO ONE HAS FORCED MRS. GORE OR MRS. BAKER TO BRING PRINCE OR SHEENA EASTON INTO THEIR HOMES. THANKS TO THE CONSTITUTION, THEY ARE FREE TO BUY OTHER FORMS OF MUSIC FOR THEIR CHILDREN.
REPORT ON
2.


AFTER TESTIFYING BEFORE CONGRESS, JOHN DENVER LOSES HIS RECORDING CONTRACT WITH RCA.
OH, GOD!

ZAPPA APPEARS ON CNN'S CROSSFIRE.
MR. ZAPPA, I DOUBT THAT YOU HAVE ANY CONCEPTION OF THE MEANING OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT-
OH, KISS MY ASS!
COMING UP NEXT: DOES ROCK MUSIC CAUSE A.I.D.S.?


IN FEBRUARY OF 1986, THE MARYLAND STATE SENATE PROPOSES A BILL WHICH WOULD PROHIBIT THE SALE TO MINORS OF ALBUMS DEEMED OBSCENE BY A STATE-APPOINTED BOARD. THE PUNISHMENT: A YEAR IN JAIL AND A $1000. FINE! ONCE AGAIN, ZAPPA TESTIFIES...
THIS BILL REFERS TO PROHIBITING ADVERTISING OF GROUPS USING OBJECTIONABLE TOPICS.
THAT MEANS THAT A KID WEARING A MOTLEY CRUE T-SHIRT COULD BE SENT TO JAIL FOR A YEAR! AND IF HE DOES IT TWICE - IT'S FIVE YEARS!

THE SOMEWHAT OBSCURE HEAVY METAL GROUP W.A.S.P. IS BROUGHT UP FREQUENTLY. THIS IS FOLLOWED BY A SURGE IN POPULARITY FOR THIS PREVIOUSLY WIDELY IGNORED SHOCK BAND...
THE BILL IS DEFEATED, FOLLOWED BY THREATS OF REINTRODUCTION & A VOW TO "BRING THE RECORD INDUSTRY TO ITS KNEES."


MEANWHILE, THE RECORD INDUSTRY AGREES TO LIMITED LABELING, AND BEGINS TONING DOWN ITS RELEASES...
THEY'VE GOT TOO MUCH POWER! IT'S TOO RISKY TO FIGHT THEM! WITH ALL THE BILLS WE'VE GOT RIDING IN CONGRESS, WE CAN'T AFFORD TO STAND UP FOR OUR CIVIL RIGHTS. NOT NOW!

MEANWHILE, GORE AND BAKER CONTINUE THEIR CAMPAIGN...
WE DO NOT SUPPORT CENSORSHIP! WE ARE MERELY AN INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE!
ECORD
PORN ROCK MUST GO!
NO PORN ROCK!
3

THE P.M.R.C. POWER LADIES MEET...
NOW WE NEED AN EXAMPLE, SOMETHING TO REALLY SCARE THE DAYLIGHTS OUT OF THE INDUSTRY.
HOW ABOUT GEORGE MICHAEL? HE'S GOT THAT SONG "I WANT YOUR SEX."

NO! NO! HE'S WITH A MAJOR LABEL. WE NEED SOMEONE SMALL. SOMEONE WHO CAN'T FIGHT BACK.
MAXIMUM ROCK'N'ROLL
I'LL LOOK INTO IT. I'M SURE I CAN PROVIDE AN UNWITTING VICTIM.

ON JUNE 2, 1986, JELLO BIAFRA, LEADER AND VOCALIST OF THE ROCK GROUP DEAD KENNEDYS IS CHARGED WITH "DISTRIBUTION OF HARMFUL MATTER," A MISDEMEANOR THAT CARRIES A POSSIBLE FINE OF $2000. AND A MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF ONE YEAR IN JAIL.
WHERE IS WHAT?
OKAY, WHERE IS IT? WHERE IS IT?

DON'T PLAY STUPID WITH US, YOU LITTLE DEGENERATE! WHERE'S THE HARMFUL MATTER? THE CONTRABAND? YOU KNOW! THE RECORD!

AFTER SEVERAL HOURS OF SEARCHING THE HOUSE, THEY LOCATE THE "SMOKING GUN," A COPY OF THE SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS ALBUM, "FRANKENCHRIST."
A-HA! NOW WE'VE GOT YOU!

A JURY IS SELECTED. IS THERE ANY REASON WHY YOU WOULD CONSIDER YOURSELF UNFIT FOR JURY DUTY IN THIS TRIAL?
YEAH! BECAUSE ALL COPS ARE LIARS!

AFTER A LONG AND TIRESOME TRIAL, THE CASE IS THROWN OUT OF COURT. IN THE INTERIM, BIAFRA GOES INTO DEBT FOR $70,000, AND IS FORCED TO DISBAND THE DEAD KENNEDYS.

WE WON, BUT WE'VE GOT A LONG WAY TO GO. WE'VE GOT TO FIGHT TO HANG ON TO WHAT FREEDOMS WE STILL HAVE.

TIPPER GORE WRITES A BOOK

IT EVEN SHOWS HOW LOCAL VIGILANTE GROUPS CAN HARRASS AND DESTROY LOCAL RADIO STATIONS AND RECORD STORES WHICH DO NOT CONFORM TO THE P.M.R.C. AGENDA!

RAISING PG KIDS IN AN X-RATED WORLD
TIPPER GORE

THE P.M.R.C. IS NOW ENDORSED BY THE NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION, AND ALLEGEDLY BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS.

IN NOVEMBER OF 1987, THE P.M.R.C. RELEASES ITS OWN "ANTI-ROCK" VIDEO!

IT'S EVEN GOT FRONTAL NUDITY AND PROFANITY, TO MAKE SURE IT REALLY SELLS!

IN FEBRUARY OF 1988, A FRANK ZAPPA CONCERT IN PATRIOT CENTER, FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA, IS ABRUPTLY CANCELLED...

IT'S UH, BECAUSE OF SCHEDULING CONFLICTS! YEAH! THAT'S THE TICKET!

FAIRFAX JUST HAPPENS TO BE THE HOME OF THE P.M.R.C.

GIVING IN TO PRESSURE FROM TIPPER AND HER PALS, SEVERAL LARGE RETAILERS STOP CARRYING ROCK N' ROLL MAGAZINES, INCLUDING *ROLLING STONE* AND *SEVENTEEN*. AMONGST THEM IS WAL-MART, OWNED BY SAM WALTON, ACKNOWLEDGED AS *THE RICHEST MAN IN AMERICA*...

...AND SCARED TO DEATH OF THAT GORE WOMAN!

IN MAY OF 1989, MADONNA IS SIGNED TO A $6 MILLION DEAL WITH PEPSI. WHEN HER COMMERCIAL AIRS, THERE ARE A FEW COMPLAINTS. THE COMMERCIAL IS DROPPED. NOW THE RELIGIOUS RIGHT HAS JOINED THE "BANNEDWAGON."

ANYBODY GOT A COKE?

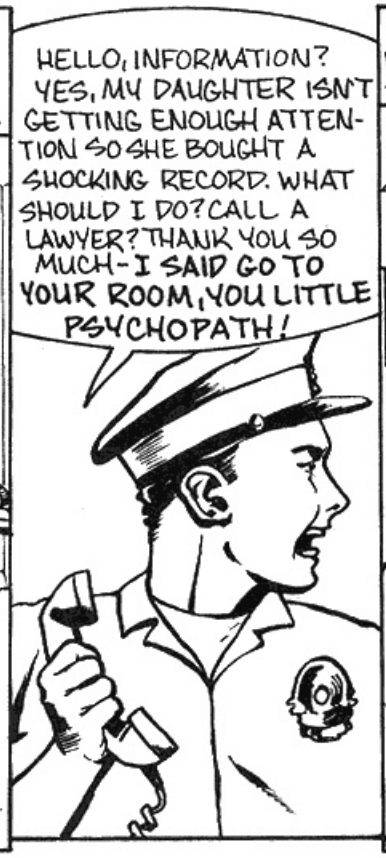
IN OCTOBER 1989, **MUSIC IN ACTION**, A GROUP ORGANIZED BY FORMER PUBLICIST HOWARD BLOOM, STAGES A RALLY IN WASHINGTON IN WHICH A PETITION IS DELIVERED WITH 50,000 SIGNATURES PROTESTING MUSIC CENSORSHIP.

THE DEMONSTRATION GOES LARGELY UNREPORTED AND MUSIC IN ACTION FADES INTO OBSCURITY.

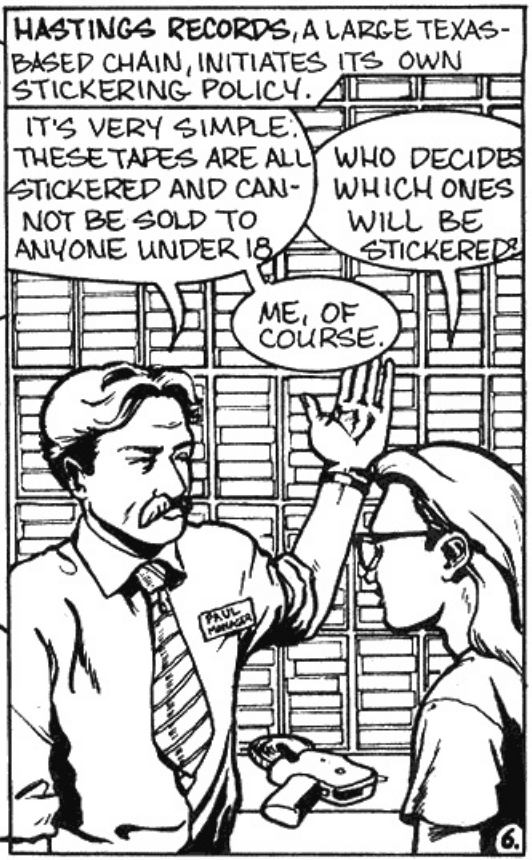
MEANWHILE, THE RECORD INDUSTRY IS BUSY TRYING TO RESTRICT THE IMPORTATION OF DAT RECORDERS, WHICH THEY FEAR IS A THREAT TO THE INDUSTRY.

RECORD COMPANIES NOW ROUTINELY CHANGE LYRICS TO AVOID BEING "STICKERED."

AMERICA, WHICH ALWAYS LEADS THE WAY IN THE FREE WORLD, HAS NOW DONE SO IN CENSORSHIP, AS THE FIRST CRIMINAL OBSCENITY CASE GOES TO COURT IN CANADA.


HELLO, INFORMATION? YES, MY DAUGHTER ISN'T GETTING ENOUGH ATTENTION SO SHE BOUGHT A SHOCKING RECORD. WHAT SHOULD I DO? CALL A LAWYER? THANK YOU SO MUCH - I SAID GO TO YOUR ROOM, YOU LITTLE PSYCHOPATH!

HASTINGS RECORDS, A LARGE TEXAS-BASED CHAIN, INITIATES ITS OWN STICKERING POLICY.


IT'S VERY SIMPLE. THESE TAPES ARE ALL STICKERED AND CANNOT BE SOLD TO ANYONE UNDER 18.
WHO DECIDES WHICH ONES WILL BE STICKERED?
ME, OF COURSE.
PAUL MANAGER

JANUARY, 1990 - THE STATES BEGIN DRAFTING THEIR OWN STICKERING BILLS. PRETTY SOON YOU NEED A SCORE-CARD TO KNOW JUST WHAT RESTRICTIONS ON THE FIRST AMENDMENT ARE BEING PROPOSED, AND WHERE...

ALL RIGHT, ONE MORE TIME - THERE'S 18 DIFFERENT STATES PROPOSING BILLS INCLUDING 10 DIFFERENT FORMS OF PROHIBITION WITH PUNISHMENTS RANGING FROM MISDEMEANOR TO FELONY STATUS... THIS WILL REQUIRE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN ENFORCEMENT AND COURT COSTS WHICH WILL

-HEY! WHERE'S MY WALLET?

2 LIVE CREW

Billboard

IN APRIL OF 1990, AN ANTI-STICKERING RALLY IS HELD IN ST. LOUIS...

RIGHT TO ROCK

THE MISSOURI BILL IS DEFEATED.

OBLIVIOUS TO THE GRASS-ROOTS SUCCESS IN ST. LOUIS, THE INDUSTRY CONCEDES:

RIAA

PMRC

WE WILL CREATE A STANDARDIZED STICKERING SYSTEM, SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE FILM INDUSTRY.

AND WE WILL WITHDRAW OUR PENDING STICKER BILLS... FOR NOW.

NOW YOU'VE **GOT** TO BE 18 TO BUY A COPY OF GUNS N' ROSES *APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION!* IN MANY PLACES. IT STARTS WITH YOUNG PEOPLE. THEY HAVE SO FEW RIGHTS, NO ONE MINDS IF THEY LOSE A FEW MORE. BUT WILL IT STOP THERE?

RECORD INDUSTRY

SURE! THEY'VE GONE AS FAR AS THEY CAN! WE REACHED A COMPROMISE, AND NOW ALL IS WELL! WE CAN GO ON MAKING MONEY, AND EVERYONE IS HAPPY! IT ALL WORKED OUT IN THE END!

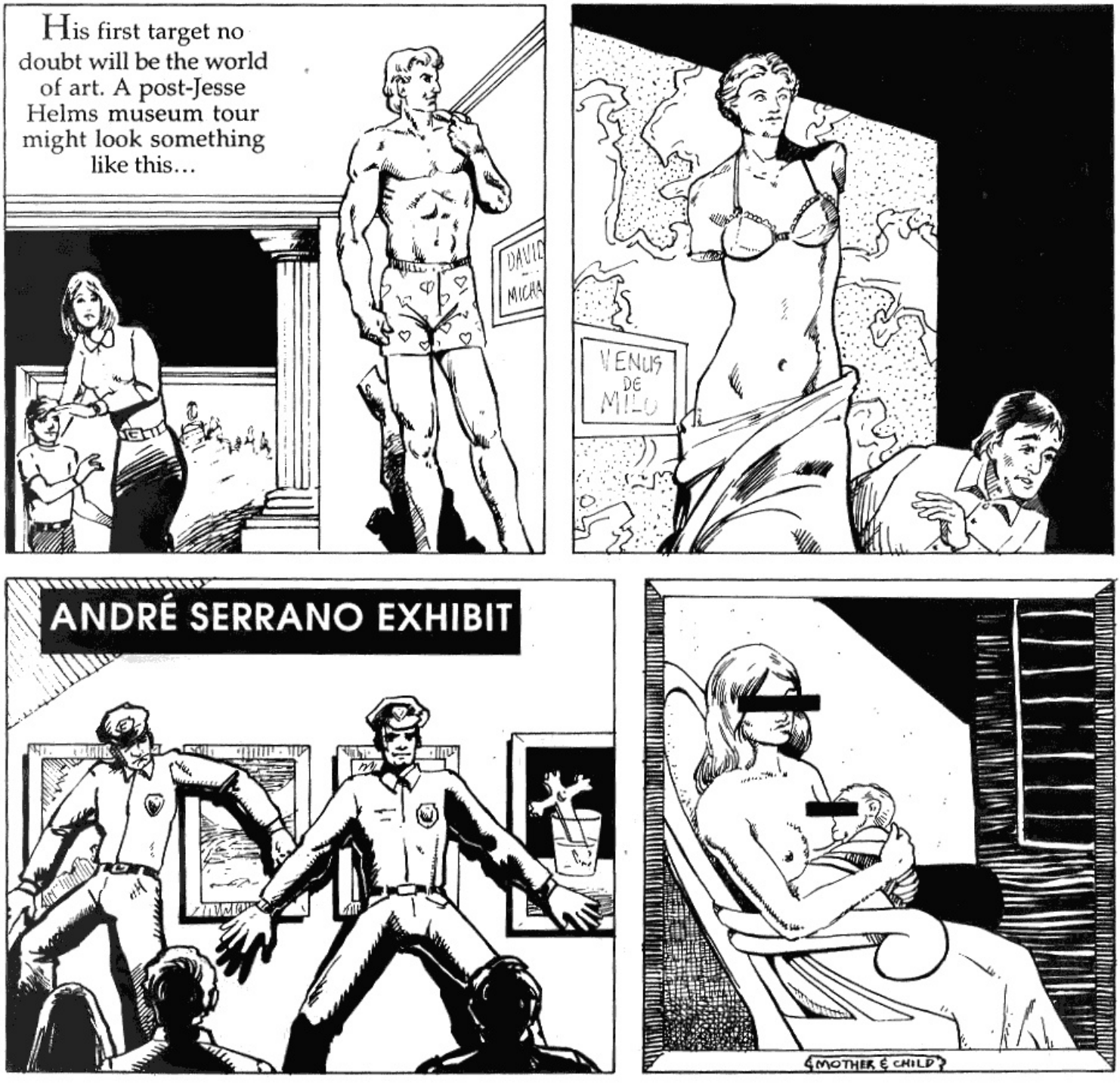
HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!

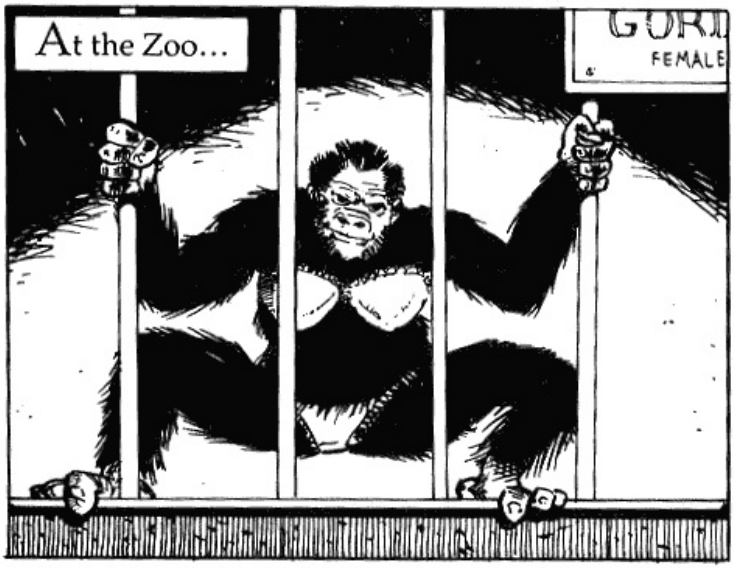
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!!

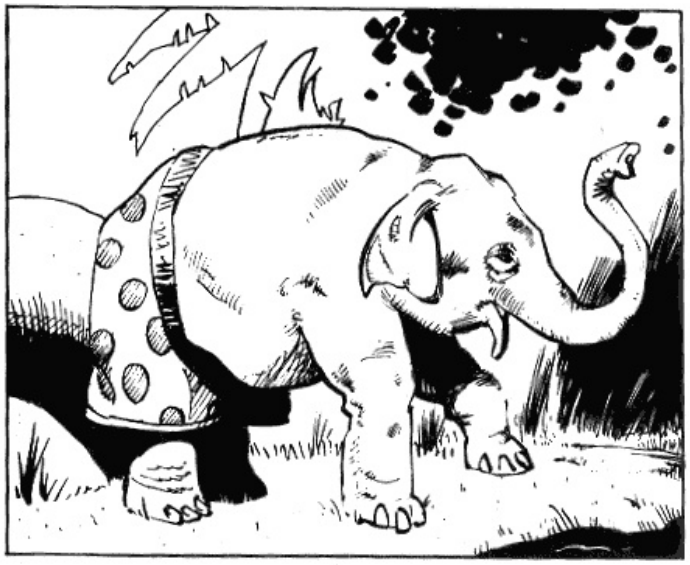
Recently Senator Jesse Helms from North Carolina pressured the Congress into agreeing not to grant endowments to any arts deemed to be "obscene." In other words, if you show an endowment, you don't get an endowment. The problem with this, of course, is that when you give in to someone like Jesse Helms, they are usually inspired by their victory to go further, creating what will hopefully not become...

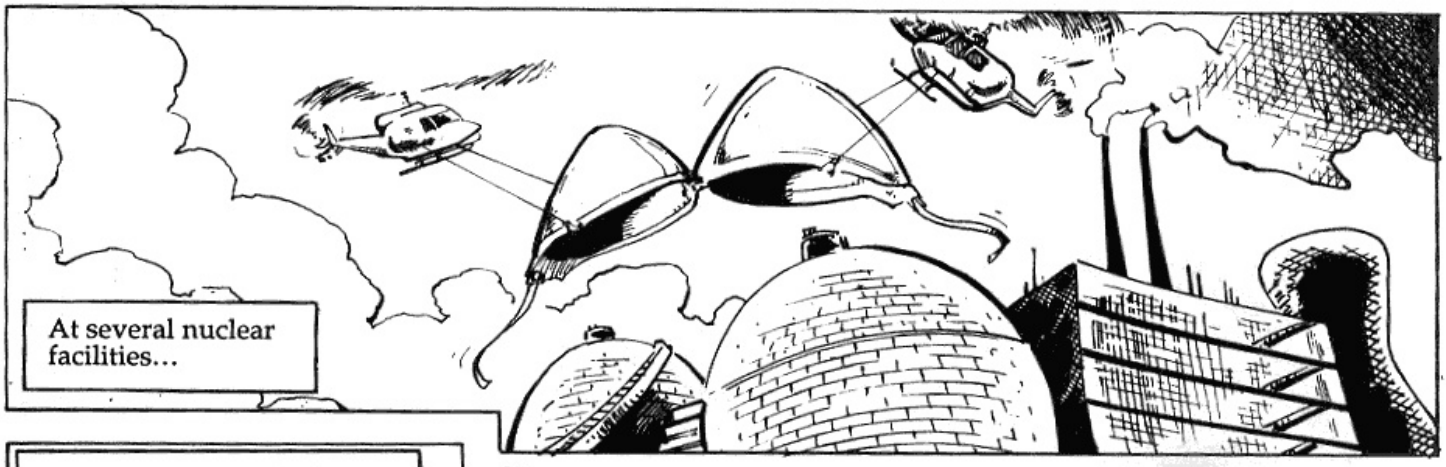
THE WORLD · ACCORDING TO · JESSE HELMS

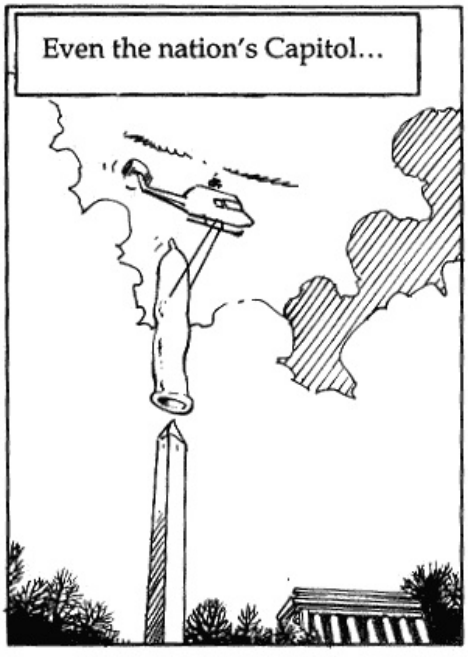
by Todd Loren · Art by Tom Luth ·


His first target no doubt will be the world of art. A post-Jesse Helms museum tour might look something like this...
VENUS DE MILO
ANDRÉ SERRANO EXHIBIT
MOTHER & CHILD

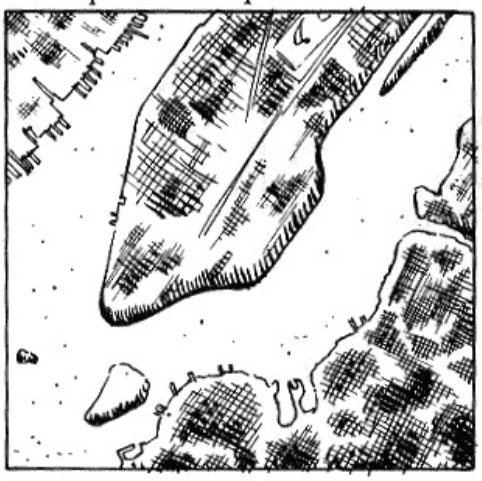








Finally Federal funds to Manhattan and the state of Florida are cut off, in light of their wanton refusal to alter their phallic shape!



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